



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**  
**WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460**

**OFFICE OF  
PREVENTION, PESTICIDES  
AND TOXIC SUBSTANCES**

**December 8, 2000**

**VIA OVERNIGHT MAIL**

Janice McFarland, Ph.D.  
Syngenta  
410 Swing Road  
Greensboro, NC 27409

Re: Transmission of Preliminary Environmental Fate and Effects Risk Assessment for  
Atrazine in Support of Reregistration

Dear Dr. McFarland:

Enclosed is the Office of Pesticide Programs' preliminary environmental fate and effects risk assessment for the Triazine pesticide, atrazine, in support of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) pesticide reregistration work. Please provide the EPA with any error correction comments within 30 days of receipt of this package. At or before day 15 of the comment period, the Agency requests that Syngenta submit those error corrections it has identified to date to help facilitate timely consideration of the Company's comments. This advance opportunity to review EPA's preliminary risk assessment for errors is consistent with the proposed public participation process announced in the *Federal Register* on March 15, 2000 (65 FR 14199), and is an integral part of a wider effort to involve the public in implementation of the Food Quality Protection Act of 1996.

Upon receipt, we will evaluate and prepare a written response to your comments, and will revise the preliminary environmental fate and effects risk assessment, as appropriate. Errors include mathematical, computational, typographic or other similar errors. At this stage, we will respond only to errors that do not pertain to matters of policy, interpretation, or applicability of data. In January 2001, EPA expects to release to the public both the human health and environmental risk assessments, your comments, and the Agency's evaluation of your comments. These documents will be placed in a Public Docket and posted on EPA's Internet site. The EPA will announce the availability of these documents via a Notice of Availability in the *Federal Register* and through an electronic list server message. During the public participation period, the Agency will be seeking additional comments on the preliminary risk assessment.

In addition, please inform us in writing of any claims of Confidential Business Information (CBI) contained in this assessment. If we do not receive notification in writing within 30 days of any such claims, we will assume that the documents are free of CBI. Finally, in the 30-day comment period, inform us of any pertinent, ongoing or planned studies or other sources of information on atrazine and your timing for submitting such data and information to the Agency. Providing this type of information will enable EPA to plan better for refining its risk assessments and completing the reregistration and Special Review.

If during this 30 day period, you submit comments other than those concerning errors, as defined

above, you should clearly indicate that they are submitted in advance of the public participation process. You should provide a brief summary of the comment and refer to an attachment which provides a more in-depth discussion. Again, Syngenta will have the opportunity to provide additional, substantive comments during the public participation process so we strongly encourage you to hold these types of comments until this phase of the review.

Please mail your error comments, any claims of CBI, and schedule for additional data/information submissions to the Chemical Review Manager, Pam Noyes. In addition, please provide your response and any supporting material in electronic form to Pam at *noyes.pam@epa.gov*. If you have questions, feel free to contact her directly at (703) 308-8179.

Sincerely,

Richard Dumas, Acting Chief  
Special Review Branch  
Special Review and  
Reregistration Division